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(Last week's Number.) TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE

DE LESSEPS'	MATERIA	ALS 1	OR	THE]	HIST	ORY	OF 7	THE	
SUEZ CANA	L, by CAL	PTAIN	R.	F. Bu	RTON				111
Gosse's KING									113
THE REGISTE	R OF RE	CHAR	D DE	KEL	LAW	E. by	CAN CAN	ON	
RAINE									114
KEGAN PAUL	's WILL	AM (Popy	VIN: I	II BIF	RIE	NDS A	ND	
CONTEMPOR									115
GROHMAN'S						E. b	V S.	R.	
GARDINER				-		., .	,		117
CURRENT LIT									118
NOTES AND 1			-						119
OBITUARY : 1	TR JOHN	FOR	STEE		•	•			122
					•	•	•		
NOTES OF THE	EGVET	hy (lper	TIP	C	TEST	ED	•	123
BOSTON LET	PPD by T	a d	Propi	W.	1. 0	LEGIL	Total	•	123
SELECTED BO		. 10.	L Biti		•	•		•	124
CORRESPOND			•	•		•			122
Etymology			D		h- T	Teritor o	o To	-1-	
Liginology	of the Na	me oj	Da	youne,	by I	rine	Z LOI	113-	
	onaparte								
	Monro;								
	The Britis								
	Ierbert Sp							1	24 - 6
APPOINTMEN									126
HARTLEY'S .	AIR, ANI	O ITS	RE	LATIO	N8 :	ro]	LIFE,	by	
H. J. SLAC	к .								126
NISSEN'S V	ITAE CA	ATON	ts 1	FRAGM	IENT	A I	MARB	TR-	
GENSIA, by	Prof. R.	ELLI	s.						127
SCIENCE NO	CES (GEO	LOGY	. ME	TEORO	LOG	Y)			128
MEETINGS O	F SOCIET	IES							129
THE DUDLEY	GALLER	x, by	W.	M. R	OSSE	TII			130
EXHIBITION	OF OLD M	ASTE	RS A	THE	Roy	AL A	CADE	MY.	
V., by Sin									131
RECENT DISC	OVERIES	AT O	LYME	TA. by	C. '	r. N	EWTO	N.	132
NOTES ON									
MURRAY	ins Cas.	L MALIANA	2212	COLLE		, .	· J		133
ART SALES	AND Nom	ma	m 3	Tanana	:	•	•		133
									134
LEMAÎTRE, b		HCK	AA ET						135
STAGE NOTE				*					
CRYSTAL PA									135
Music Nort	S, TABLI	C OF	CON	TENTS	, NE	W I	UBLI	CA-	
TIONS .								1	35-6

TO THE

ETHNOLOGISTS, ARCHAEOLOGISTS,

AND

PHILOLOGISTS OF AMERICA.

At the 24th Meeting of the American Association for the ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, held August last, at Detroit, a PERMANENT SUBSECTION OF ANTHROPOLOGY was organised to go into effect at the Buffalo Meeting of the Association in August, 1876, The Hon. L. H. Mongan, of Rochester, was chosen chairman of the Subsection for the Buffalo Meeting, and a committee was appointed to invite the co-operation of all interested in either of the numerous departments of Anthropology, in order that the rapidly increasing interest and importance of the subject may be treated, in this country, with the breadth of thought which is now demanded. For this purpose it is hoped that Philology, as well as the more popular departments of Anthropology, will be represented at the forthcoming meeting, and that the Subsection will more nearly correspond to that of the British Association, which annually gives so many important papers to the world.

It is desirable that students of Ethnology should attend the meetings of the Association, and contribute papers, for, notwithstanding the variety and richness of the materials for this science in America, it cannot be said that it has become fairly established among us. It is due from American scholarship that a complete exposition should be made of the arts, investions, institutions, usages and customs, ethnical relations and religious beliefs of the early American people.

In relation to a better understanding of North American Archaeology, very much will be gained by an annual meeting of investigators from all parts of the country to compare notes. In no other department is the necessity of direct comparison of field notes and articles obtained in various parts of the country so important as in Archaeology. Any worker, however well read in the labours of others, is necessarily biassed by his own discoveries, until he has the means of comparison and discussion with those working in the same way in other localities. This truth was so evident at recent meetings of the Association, that it leads the committee to mention it as an inducement for all workers to come forward with their papers and their specimens, and for each to give his share of information for the benefit of the whole.

It is particularly requested that all who can will take to the meeting not only such diagrams and illustrations as will elucidate their papers, but specimens as well. Arrangements will be made with the Local Committee to provide a safe place for a museum during the meeting, similar to those furnished by the British Association.

The committee is authorised to state that the citizens of Buffalo, in anticipation of a very large meeting, will do everything in their power to provide means of entertainment and transportation, at the lowest possible rates, for parties attending the meeting.

The necessary blanks for application for membership will be furnished by the Permanent Secretary of the Association, upon request, and the regular circular, and that of the Local Committee, relating to the Buffalo Meeting, will also be forwarded to applicants. Early replies to this circular, addressed to the Secretary, are requested, and the expressed intention of reading papers or exhibiting specimens will be answered by the transmission of the proper blanks for the entry of titles, which the rules of the Association require shall be in the hands of the Permanent Secretary before the date of the meeting.

In conclusion, the committee extend a cordial invitation to all interested, who are not now members, to become members of the Association and to take part in this newly organised Subsection of Anthropology.

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